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# Cottage Grove Sentinel

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SPORTS

CHAMPIONS! The Cottage Grove Lions beat out Marshfield for the state title. **B1**

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2017

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## HISTORY. MADE.



PHOTO BY CHANDLER BASCOLE

The Cottage Grove Lions football team took home its first ever state championship title on Saturday, Nov. 25 after beating out Marshfield 48-14. The win capped the team's perfect season and earned the recognition of the Cottage Grove City Council. The board honored the team during its meeting on Monday, Nov. 27.

### Home Free

#### Bohemia Mining Days will earn \$3,000 from the festival after the new year



Bohemia Mining Days (pictured above, the carnival) will receive at least \$3,000 from the Home Free concert after the start of the new year.

By Caitlyn May  
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It was a community effort. Planning and Community Development Manager Faye Stewart organized the donation of a fencing system through the Bohemia Foundation to ensure only ticket holders found their way to the show. Bohemia Mining Days' (BMD) advertisements featured press-packet photos of the band and the concert was held in a city-owned park.

The Home Free concert held during last summer's Bohemia Mining Days festival was meant to help give a financial boost to the four-day event, with organizer and BMD board member Joel Reiten promising to give the proceeds to BMD after subtracting what it cost him to put on the show, plus 10 percent. Four and a half months later BMD hasn't seen a dime and Reiten has resigned from

the board.

Reiten, who brought the band, Home Free to Cottage Grove at a cost of \$25,000, said the festival will end up with at least \$3,000 of the \$3,950 profit after the new year.

"It's been a great privilege to have served on the board of Bohemia Mining Days for the past three years. I am now stepping down," Reiten said in a statement. "It's important for a small town to preserve its historic identity and use it as an educational tool as well as a unifying force within the community. The importance for these local festivals continue to driving factor for many smaller Oregon cities to demonstrate community commitment and involvement that leads to spurring business interest and in local investments."

Reiten Entertainment invested the initial \$25,000 fee charged by Home Free as well as just over \$4,042 in media which included \$500 to KNND, \$2,247 for an Interstate-5 billboard and \$400 to KPNW

radio for on-air advertisements.

It also spent \$4,000 on sound equipment and \$2,071 on labor which included services provided by family members who flew out to Oregon. Reiten paid for their travel and then donated the money back to BMD.

In total, financial documents provided by Reiten show a total of \$35,456 spent to put the concert on.

Ticket sales came in at just over \$33,530 while food and drink earned \$5,876 and a percentage of merchandising brought in a little over \$2,000. The Home Free concert garnered a profit of \$3,950.

"Unfortunately these types of festival continue to more and more costly," Reiten's statement continued. "The expense of insurance, necessary security and infrastructure, everything for power to toilets is increasing.

I believe that it's somewhat irresponsible to think that public and private donations will continue to support any growing festival and it's the

Please see **HOME FREE PG. A10**

### City manager reviewed

By Caitlyn May  
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City Manager Richard Meyers

Cottage Grove City Manager Richard Meyers is getting a pay raise.

After evaluating the city manager's performance in an executive session earlier this month, the Cottage Grove City Council voted to approve the city manager's contract to reflect a 2.3 percent coat of living increase and bringing his total salary to \$124,393.

"When I first arrived at council, I was hoping there was a dragon to slay," Councilor Jake Boone said. "But to my great disappointment, Richard is a really awesome city manager, competent and has massive levels of integrity. A lot of other cities would hire him away if they could. I'm glad you're here, everyone else should be," Boone told Meyers. He went on to note that chatter on social media about Meyers' job performance was unwarranted "There's almost a one to one relationship to people who don't like him to people who have no idea what's going on in the city," he said.

It was a common theme of the conversation that preceded a no discussion unanimous vote of approval. Councilor Mike Fleck also commended Meyers' integrity while Councilor Burback said he had dealt with Meyers on a business level and appreciated his dedication to the community.

Mayor Jeff Gowing told the crowd-thinned out by the departure of the local high school sports teams receiving an honor earlier Monday night—that Meyers went above and beyond his job description. Gowing said Meyers worked on his days off, attended community events and worked with the chamber of commerce to usher PakTech—a manufacturing company bringing jobs to the community—into Cottage Grove.

Councilor Amy Slay seconded her fellow councilors' sentiments adding, "Thanks for putting up with us."

#### COMMUNITY

##### Changes

Habitat for Humanity makes a change. **PAGE A3**



#### GOVERNMENT

##### Shopping carts

City Council addressing shopping carts. Again. **PAGE A10**

#### INDEX

Calendar .....	B11
Channel Guide .....	B5
Classifieds .....	B7
Obituaries .....	A2
Opinion .....	A4
Sports .....	B1

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**Coffee with the Editor**  
**Last Thursday of the month**  
**12 pm**  
**@ Backstage Bakery**  
**Come chat about the community!**

